

Beach Combings.

Philip West has been spending the holidays with friends in Marianna.

Mrs W. H. Crawford has been quite ill for some days, but is now improving.

Miss Vera Crawford is home from school enjoying her holiday vacation.

Quite a few ducks have put in an appearance in the distant parts of the bays during the past week.

A barge of lumber consigned to H. W. Johnson came down from Sale-Davis Co's mill this week. It was unloaded on their dock.

Note the announcement of E. D. Neel in another column. Mr Neel will soon be with us with a very full and complete stock of goods.

There has been quite a number of strangers in town this past week. Some are looking for locations while others are merely on pleasure bent.

The Tarpon came in Christmas morning with all her flags displayed. The boat presented a very pretty sight as it came quietly up to the dock.

W. S. Price, of Enterprise, Ala., has been in town this week looking after his property interests. Mr Price will soon begin the erection of some brick buildings here.

G. W. Ward, of DeFuniak Springs, was an arrival in town yesterday. George was one of the losers in the recent fire at DeFuniak Springs, but is still as smiling and hopeful as ever.

Clarence Ware received this week a 20 h. p. Regal engine which he will install in the "Odd Fellow." With that amount of power that boat ought to show its heels to all launches on the bay.

W. S. Winchester, of New York City, is making a tour of the Bay country, spying out the land, and noting its possibilities. Mr Winchester is an active energetic man and we trust may conclude to secure a home here.

The Manteo was in on Tuesday, leaving that night after coaling here for the first time. Hereafter the boat will coal here regularly. It is understood that the boat will go to New Orleans this trip, returning here about January 9th.

T. J. Farmer, of Shorterville, Ala., is a Panama City visitor this week. Mr Farmer was one of the first to realize the future importance of Panama City, and make investments here. He notes great improvements since he was here last Summer.

The roads and bridges in this section show a decided improvement since the road supervisors have put in a few days work on them. The dry weather has put the roads in good shape to be worked, and it is hoped that more attention will be given them hereafter.

The stewards on the Manteo and Farpon were arrested on the arrival of these boats in the bay this week on a charge of selling liquor in this county. They gave bail for their appearance at court at Vernon. Some of our citizens were also hauled up in Sheriff Allen's grab net.

On Tuesday Sheriff Allen accompanied by Deputy Harmon started with his crap shooters and other prisoners by afternoon train for Chipley. While transferring at Cottendale three of the darkies got away, making a break through the crowd in the car, and going out the front end.

S. J. Haviland, of Richberg, Miss., representing Mr Hymers, is in town and getting everything in readiness to receive the machinery &c., that will be put in to Mr Hymers new Novelty and Saw mill works. The machinery has all been purchased and will be shipped as soon as rates can be secured.

Christmas passed off very quietly in Panama City. There was no drunkenness or rowdiness, and every one seemed to be enjoying the feasting, and gift making and receiving of the day. The weather was ideally perfect, one of our loveliest Winter days, and just the kind to make people enjoy life in all ways.

Don't fail to write your Congressman or sign some of the petitions which are being circulated relative to the action of the Board of Engineers upon the improvement of this harbor. Every one interested, and all are, should do their share in getting quick and favorable action upon this subject.

On Monday E. M. Goodson of this city had the good fortune to bring down a magnificent 4 year old buck. He was hunting on the south side of West Bay, between that bay and the Lagoon, when he came across the buck. Several of our townsmen enjoyed venison steak as a consequence of Mr Goodson's good luck.

A shortage of building material and large increase in price on what can be had, has caused a check in building operations. On some material which the German American Lumber Co., has been furnishing here they have advanced prices 80 per cent. Such increase in price tends to stop building until building material can be purchased at a more liberal figure.

Sheriff Allen was a business caller in this end of the county this week. On Monday night he visited Millville and took in the participants in a crap game, some fifteen in number, as well as a couple of men charged with selling liquor. The sheriff is determined to put a stop to the gambling, whiskey selling, and pistol toting that has been so much in evidence about the Bay lately.

Dr R. D. Blackshear has been visiting friends here this week, and also doing some work on his property at Long Point. He has let a contract for clearing a hundred acres of the point, and having it surveyed. The genial doctor has some very choice property on the bay, and with proper effort it will soon become a favorite residence portion of our beautiful bay country. The doctor left for his home in Dothan to-day.

Mr and Mrs F. B. Clingo entertained a few friends Tuesday evening at their beautiful new home. Those present were Mr and Mrs Geo McKenzie, Mr and Mrs O. P. McKenzie, Mrs Booth, Miss Jewel Booth and Messrs LaMonte Stevens, of Bagdad, and Jimmie Stone. Dainty refreshments were served, music enjoyed and all voted Mrs Clingo a delightful hostess.

G. H. Purvis, Vice President of the A. & St A. B. R. R., has been in town this week looking after the interests of his company. Mr Purvis states that hereafter the Manteo will ply between here and New Orleans, stopping at Pensacola going and coming, and at Mobile when east bound. The boat will leave Mobile on Sunday evening is heretofore, and Pensacola on Monday evening. Mr Purvis is moving his headquarters from Atlanta to Dothan, and when the offices are completed here will move to this point.

Fox Hunt.

Messrs. Tom Espy and Tom Whatley, of Dothan, and W. E. McEachern, with several others from Gordon, left this morning over the St. Andrews road, with sixteen dogs, to spend a day or so hunting "Bro. Fox," in the neighborhood of Fountain, Fla.

Tom Espy can get more real sport chasing one fox than most men can get out of an entire Christmas season. —Dothan Eagle.

Y. P. C. U. Meeting.

The Y. P. C. U. held its regular meeting on Sunday in the school house. There were quite a number of our young people in attendance and a very profitable meeting was held. The study of the lesson, a very interesting one, was conducted by Miss Grace West. The meeting next Sunday will be held at the home of Miss Grace West, at Old Town. A launch will leave the Panama City dock at 2:30 p. m. to take those to and from the meeting who are interested. No charge will be made for the trip. Every one who wishes to take a part in this work of the young people are invited to attend this meeting.

Bakery.

The oven for the new bakery here has arrived, and Mr C. Varlin, is now engaged in setting the same in the building on the corner of Harrison avenue and Second street. He will soon be in readiness to furnish our people with choice, clean, wholesome bread and cakes.

B. C. & St A. R. R. In Hands of a Receiver.

As a result of a meeting of the creditors of the B. C. & St A. R. R. held at Chipley recently, which was attended by A. J. Gay and R. L. McKenzie, prominent creditors from this place, that road has been placed in the hands of a receiver.

A Chipley dispatch of the 28th to the Pensacola Journal has the following to say about the proceedings.

"The B. C. & St. A. Railroad, lately operated from Chipley to Pine Log, 15 miles south of here, has been placed in the hands of a receiver, Mr A. D. Campbell, of this place, with instructions from the court to operate the road to the best advantage and use the proceeds for the betterment of the road. This road is built in first-class style with 75 pound iron half way to tide-water and the balance of the way is graded. It is to be hoped that it will soon go into the hands of some good company that will finish it to St Andrews Bay. It has been doing a good business hauling down feed and other freight to, and lumber back from the several mills on the road to the L. & N. at Chipley."

For some time the road has been doing but little or nothing, with no one giving it attention. It would require but a small sum to complete the track to the Bay, and it is thought that now that the creditors have taken the matter in hand, something will be done with the property. With an extension northwesterly to Troy the road could be made one of great importance and become an important feeder to at least two large systems.

Cromanton.

Mrs Forbes called on friends in town Thursday.

Rev Thompson is settled in the White cottage.

Mr Mauger received lumber for his new barn this week.

Miss Mamie Fradosia is staying with Mrs Ezra Kinney this week.

A. Spicer hauled lumber for Chas Forbes and for the church this week.

Miss Mary Shippey of Farmdale spent Christmas week with Mrs Hoskins.

W. J. Jones and family who have been living at the gulf beach, have left for Texas.

Mr and Mrs Thompson and Mr and Mrs Mauger took dinner with Mrs Hodge Christmas.

Mrs Ecker's strawberries are looking very well, and promise a better crop than in years.

Frank Kinney and wife and Misses Ethel and Emma Hodge, attended church at Millville Sunday.

Christmas day Mr and Mrs Albritton entertained the families of Chas Mashburn, Peter Parker and Henry Spicer.

A quiet wedding took place at the home of Tom Carden, Thursday the 24th, when Richard Carden and Lucy Morris of Southport were united in marriage.

Mr Schmitz has returned to his home in Wymore Neb., after a two weeks visit with his daughter Mrs A. Hodge. He is delighted with the country and his many friends hope for his return.

Rev Thompson and wife spent Christmas evening with Mr and Mrs Hoskins. Music was an enjoyable feature of the evening, and all were entertained by the phonograph. The children were happy in unloading the tree, and Lucy says she "knows there is a Santa Claus."

Criminal court judges in Duval and Dade counties, no longer impose fines on pistol toters, but instead, are giving this class of criminals jail sentences of ninety days. If all the judges and mayors of the state will adopt the same course, the number of murders in the state will be greatly decreased. —Bradentown Journal.

Parker.

Mr John Pitts, of Texas, is visiting his father N. W. Pitts this week.

Charles T. Parker is visiting at home and among his many friends this week.

Capt Audley Spicer, wife, and little son, spent Christmas Day on this side of the bay.

Dr Blackshear and a party made a call here Tuesday on the way up to Long Point.

The Parkerites had a dance Christmas night in the real estate office of W. H. Parker.

Mrs Annie Stewart, of Blountstown, is visiting her aunt, Mrs Martin Davis, during the holidays.

Well Christmas has come and gone, but we wish you one and all a glad and Happy New Year.

Jack Brown and wife attended the dance here on Christmas night, also Mrs E. L. Bush, of Millville.

Mrs J. P. Richardson, of DeFuniak Springs, daughter of Mrs S. E. Donaldson, arrived on Monday and will visit for some time with her mother and family.

L. L. Davis and Miss Annie Stephens were married on Tuesday night at J. E. Davis', W. H. Parker performing the ceremony. We wish them many joyful years.

Wetappo.

G. W. Lowe was here Sunday.

Christmas has come and gone once more.

W. W. Raffield was on our streets Monday.

Miss Florence Dyer spent Christmas with friends in Farmdale.

Miss Mary Franz was calling on Miss Florence Dyer, Sunday.

Messrs W. F. Woodford and Harry Allan were at S. Dyer's Sunday.

Messrs S. and J. Dyer were at Allanton and Farmdale Saturday.

Messrs J. Dyer and J. J. Kronmiller were at St Andrew and Millville Sunday.

Our mail service was rather poor last week, we did not get any for three days.

Miss Mary Franz returned from Pensacola Thursday for a few weeks visit with her grand parents at Farmdale.

The first ice machine was made by Dr. John Gurrie of Apalachicola, Fla., where there was a great prevalence of fevers in summer. The doctor realized that cooling the patient's room would undoubtedly be of benefit, and therefore set himself to devising various methods of cooling air and water. In 1850 he succeeded in producing small blocks of ice about the size of the ordinary building block. —Chicago Journal.

The West Bay Naval Stores & Lumber Company.

Notice of annual meeting: Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of The West Bay Naval Stores & Lumber Co., for the purpose of electing directors and transacting such other business as may properly come before the meeting, will be held on the 11th day of January, 1909, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, at the office of the Company in the town of West Bay, Washington County, Florida. The transfer books will be closed from January 1st, to January 15th, 1909.

Dated, New York, the 21st Day of December, 1908.

ERNEST POPE,
Secretary.

FOR SALE.

Ten acres of land with new house, 30x16 feet, at Cromanton, Fla., one well, 1 1/2 acres cleared and fenced, about 100 rods from bay front, same distance from Methodist and Baptist churches and school house, and one half mile from Cromanton post office. About seven acres of this land is splendid black loam that will grow anything. This black land in the hands of an intelligent, energetic man put into strawberries will bring him in from \$100.00 to \$500.00 per acre. This is a rare chance. Price \$300.00. Enquire at Cromanton post office.

St. Andrew.

R. M. Baker returned this week from a trip to Greenwood.

Mrs Ed Day came home from Alton, Fla., to spend the holidays.

Miss Ina Rose came home from school at Tallahassee to spend the holidays.

Mrs Scott, of Pensacola, mother of Charles Merritt, is visiting old friends here this week.

Wes Gwaltney left just before the holidays for Alton, Fla., where he is engaged to work with Ed Day.

Mr Johnson, of West Bay, and a cousin from Georgia, have been spending the holidays with Mr Johnson's sisters in Old Town.

Miss Ethel Brainard, who is attending Business College at Pensacola, has been spending holiday week with her parents. She returns to Pensacola to-morrow.

Mr and Mrs Arthur Smith, and son, of Birmingham, Ala., will arrive on Tuesday next to make an extended visit with Mrs Smith's sister, Mrs F. A. Witherill, at Old Town.

A dance will be given in Wares Hall on the evening of January 1st, 1909, for the benefit of the widows and orphans of the W. O. W. and I. O. O. F. societies. Admission will be 25 cents, and floor privileges 50 cents. All are invited to attend.

The Christmas tree at the Presbyterian church was a most enjoyable one. There was a present for each lady present, a pen, and a doll for each girl. All in all it was one of the most pleasant Christmas entertainments that this society ever held.

Mr Drummond keeps up the good work of completing a first class road along the beach from the southeast corner of St Andrews to Wares point. It is being covered with saw dust to a good depth, and when completed will prove a great convenience to those who have teaming to do between the two points.

Florida Counties.

In 1821, by order of Gen Jackson Florida was divided in two counties. West of the Suwannee river was Escambia county, and all east of the Suwannee was St Johns county.

In the first council, held under Gov W. P. Duval in 1822, two more counties were added. Jackson county was created with Suwannee river as its eastern boundary, and the Choctaw-hatchie river for its western boundary. Duval county was created with the Suwannee river for its western boundary and a line drawn from the mouth of the Suwannee to Cow Ford on the St Johns river, thence down said river to the ocean, formed its southern boundary. Cow Ford is the Jacksonville of today.

The councils of 1823-4 made more counties. Gadsden was created with a territory reaching from the Apalachicola river on the west to the Suwannee river on the east. This was subdivided to form Leon county, Washington and Walton counties were formed from Jackson and Escambia. Monroe county was created to include all territory south of Charlotte Harbor. Mosquito county included all territory south of the head of the south branch of Mantanzas river. Alachua and Nassau counties were created from the territory of Duval.

In 1827 Jefferson was set off from Leon and subdivided into Madison and Hamilton counties.

In 1832 Columbia county was formed 1833 Franklin was created.

1834-5, Hillsboro and Dade came into existence.

1838 Calhoun was set off.

1842 Santa Rosa became a county.

1843 Wakulla was formed.

1844 Marion and St Lucie.

1845 Mosquito was changed to Orange.

The history of the other counties is modern enough to be readily obtainable.

Thus it will be seen that the territory bounded on the east and south by the Suwannee river; west by the Withlacoochee river, and north by the Georgia line, was in 1821 a portion of Escambia county, in 1822 was part of Jackson county; in 1824 a portion of Gadsden county and since 1829 has been known as Hamilton county. —Times-Courier, Marianna.